

product, different from said first product, said apparatus
being responsive to receiving said first conventional coupon
wherein outputting of said first exchange coupon depends upon
at least receipt of said first conventional coupon;

purchasing said second product;

ascertaining that said second product was purchased;

redeeming, after said outputting step, said first
exchange coupon and not redeeming said first conventional
coupon based on said step of purchasing said second product.

3. (Amended) A method, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein;
said controlling step includes determining whether
[said first conventional discount coupon is] an exchange
coupon is being inputted to said apparatus.

4. (Amended) A method, as claimed in Claim 3, wherein:
said controlling step includes not generating any
exchange coupon when an exchange coupon is inputted to said
apparatus.

Claim 5, line 3, delete "discount".

Please cancel Claim 7 without prejudice or disclaimer of
the subject matter contained therein.

8. (Amended) A method, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:
said controlling step includes printing said second
product information on said first exchange coupon with said
second product information being [unrelated to] determined
independently of said first product information on said first
conventional [discount] coupon.

9 10. (Amended) A method, as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising:

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[redeeming said first exchange coupon and obtaining]
receiving cash for said first exchange coupon.

10 11. (Amended) A method, as claimed in Claim 10, wherein:
said [obtaining] receiving step includes printing a
check including an amount corresponding to a [discount] rebate
associated with said first exchange coupon.

11 12. (Amended) A method for redeeming coupons,
comprising:

providing a first coupon having first product
information said first coupon including differentiation means
5 for distinguishing said first coupon from conventional coupons
that are used in obtaining discounts on purchased products;
purchasing said first product from a seller thereof,
the seller having a check writer system;

inputting said first coupon to [a] said check writer
10 [device] system;

reading said first product information using said
check writer [device] system;

determining whether a check for an [predetermined]
amount should be written using said inputted first coupon,
15 said determining step including ascertaining whether said
first product was purchased from the seller; and

printing a check using said check writer system for
an amount based on said first product information, said check

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identifying a payor different from the seller of said first product.

94

14¹⁵. (Amended) A method, as claimed in Claim 11, wherein:
said determining step includes comparing said first product information with stored information [related to predetermined products].

21²². (Amended) A system for generating and redeeming exchange coupons, comprising:

first means for receiving a [conventional discount] first coupon, said first means including means for ascertaining whether said first coupon is an exchange coupon;

second means responsive to said first means for generating a first exchange coupon having first product information related to a first product, said first exchange coupon including means for differentiating said first exchange coupon from a coupon that is not an exchange coupon, said first exchange coupon not being generated by said second means when said first means receives an exchange coupon, with said second means outputting said first exchange coupon in response to ascertaining that at least said first coupon was received by said first means, wherein said outputting of said first exchange coupon is dependent on said first coupon being received by said first means;

third means for reading said first product information from said first exchange coupon; and

56

fourth means responsive to said third means for
[generating an amount] redeeming said first exchange coupon
but not redeeming said first coupon based on said first
exchange coupon product information.

Please cancel Claim 23 without prejudice or disclaimer of
the subject matter contained therein.

~~22~~²⁴. (Amended) A system, as claimed in Claim ~~22~~²¹, wherein:
said first means includes means for rendering said
[conventional discount] first coupon unredeemable.

~~23~~²⁵. (Amended) A system, as claimed in Claim ~~22~~²¹, wherein:
said [first] means for ascertaining includes means
for checking for a type of ink.

~~24~~²⁶. (Amended) A system, as claimed in Claim ~~22~~²¹, wherein:
said first means includes slot means of a size for
receiving substantially any one of different sizes of
[conventional discount] coupons including said first exchange
5 coupon.

~~25~~²⁷. (Amended) A system, as claimed in Claim ~~22~~²¹, wherein:
said first means includes means for reading product-
related information from said [conventional discount] first
coupon.

~~26~~²⁸. (Amended) A system, as claimed in Claim ~~22~~²¹, wherein:
said second means includes memory means for storing
a plurality of information related to a number of different
products, with one of said plurality of information being
5 selectable for generating [an] said first exchange coupon.

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29. (Amended) A system, as claimed in Claim 28, wherein:
said second means includes computer means for
selecting product information in a [predetermined] sequential
manner.

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30 32. (Amended) A system, as claimed in Claim 22, wherein:
said fourth means includes means for comparing said
first product information associated with said first exchange
coupon with stored information [to determine whether to
5 generate said amount] and means for printing a check that
includes an amount that is based on said first product
information.

[Please cancel Claim 33 without prejudice or disclaimer of
the subject matter contained therein.

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31 34. (Amended) A system, as claimed in Claim 22, wherein:
said second means includes means for rendering said
first coupon unredeemable before said first coupon is able to
be redeemed by purchasing a product identified on said first
5 coupon and said fourth means includes means for rendering said
first exchange coupon unacceptable for further redemption
after said first exchange coupon has been redeemed using said
first product information.

32 35. (Amended) A system, as claimed in Claim 22, wherein:
said first product information of said first
exchange coupon includes [at least one of the following:
a location of said first product in a store having
5 said first product, an] expiration [date] information

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associated with redemption of said first exchange coupon, [and sweepstakes information] with said expiration being no greater than the day following the day on which said first exchange coupon was generated by said second means.

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33³⁶? (Amended) A system, as claimed in Claim [33] ³⁰32, wherein:

said means for printing prints a second check, different from said first check but being printed at
5 substantially the same time as said first check is printed,
using random generator means.

34³⁷? (Amended) A system, as claimed in Claim ²¹22, wherein:

said first means includes means for obtaining
identification information from identification means that is
different from said first coupon and said fourth means
5 includes means for receiving identification information
associated with said first exchange coupon [for storing said
identification information in association with said first
product information], with said means for obtaining being
different from said means for receiving and said
10 identification information being obtained by said means for
obtaining before said first exchange coupon is redeemed.

35³⁸? (Amended) An apparatus for redeeming a [discount] coupon, comprising:

input means for receiving a first [discount] coupon
having first product information;

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scanning means for reading said first product information [on] using said first [discount] coupon, said first product information being associated with a first product for purchasing from a seller and said first coupon including means, other than said first product information and expiration information, for indicating that said first coupon is acceptable for redemption and for determining that said first coupon is to be rejected when said means for indicating is not present;

comparing means responsive to said first product
15 information for determining whether an amount should be generated; and

printing means responsive to said comparing means for providing a check in an amount based on said first product information, and in which the payor of said check amount is
20 different from the seller of said first product.

Please cancel Claims 39-41 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please add the following new claims:

³⁴42. An apparatus, as claimed in Claim ³⁵38, wherein:
the payor of said check amount is identified on said check and is the supplier of said first coupon.

³⁷43. An apparatus, as claimed in Claim ³⁵38, further including: